Date: 4/20/2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 are allowed. Claims 3, 4, 6, and 7 are objected to because of informalities. Claims 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112.

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1. Rejection of claims 3-7 under 35 U.S.C. 112:

Claims 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 3, 4, 6, and 7 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claims 3, 4, 6, and 7, the terminology of "the method of preventing Cu reduction reactions" lacks antecedent basis.

To overcome this rejection, claims 3, 4, 6, and 7 have been amended. The terminology of "the method of preventing Cu reduction reactions" has been removed from these claims. No new matter is introduced.

The Applicant suggests that claims 3-7 are now in condition for allowance, and such action is therefore politely requested.

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Sincerely yours,

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